

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
JULY 21, 2014

The Cass County Joint Water Resource District met on July 21, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Mark Brodshaug and Dan Jacobson, Southeast Cass Water Resource District; Rodger Olson, Maple River Water Resource District; Michael R. Buringrud, North Cass Water Resource District; Raymond Wolfer, Rush River Water Resource District; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Pamela Graff Corbin, Water Resource District staff; Chris McShane and Lukas D. Andrud, Attorneys for the Board; Lyndon Pease and Kurt Lysne, Engineers for the Board; Eric Dodds, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer; and Ty Smith, CH2M HILL Engineers, Inc.

Minutes

It was moved by Manager Jacobson, seconded by Manager Wolfer and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the July 8 and 10, 2014, meetings, as presented.

Approval of agenda

It was moved by Manager Buringrud, seconded by Manager Olson and unanimously carried to approve the order of the agenda.

Metro Flood Diversion Project – access update

Chris McShane updated the Board on access issues relating to the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project. A few more *Access Agreements* have been received from property owners. He is responding to questions from a couple of landowners before action commences tomorrow or Wednesday. Mr. McShane estimates the hearing will be around September 1st.

Work continues on updating the data base.

Officials from the Corps of Engineers have made contacts and are here today to visit 8 cemeteries.

Eric Dodds reviewed proposed changes to the way properties will be labeled for identification purposes.

Metro Flood Diversion Project – project update

Manager Olson said the Agricultural Policy Subcommittee is sending out an RFQ on August 18th for *Ag Risk Economic Evaluation for Temporary Water Retention Easement Values and Crop Insurance* for the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

The Corps of Engineers is making a presentation to the Moorhead City Council meeting this evening.

Metro Flood Diversion Project – land acquisition

Lukas Andrud updated the Board on land acquisition for the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project – land acquisition

Mr. Dodds will be attending the Oxbow City Council meeting this evening to talk about property acquisition and relocation relating to the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project.

It was moved by Manager Olson and seconded by Manager Jacobson that any written communication relating to land acquisition for the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project shall be reviewed by the Project Management Team prior to distribution.

The status of hardship properties was discussed. It was moved by Manager Jacobson and seconded by Manager Buringrud to authorize the appraisal and purchase of 5302 174 1/2 Avenue SE in Hickson, pending approval by the Hardship Review Committee. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McShane explained using “housing of last resort” if comparable replacement housing cannot be found. It was moved by Manager Olson and seconded by Manager Wolfer to direct ProSource to treat acquisitions for the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project as “housing of last resort” and to follow up with a Resolution on the matter at a later date. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project – impacts to Cass County Highway 25

Jason Benson met with the Board to discuss impacts to a gravel section of Cass County Highway 25, from Cass County Highway 18, north for approximately 2,680'. Components of the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project will be constructed over the roadway, as well as part of the new golf course. A *Memorandum of Agreement* will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project – project update

Mr. Dodds said the Chamber Business Leaders Task Force wants to engage elected officials to talk about the importance of this project. Darrell Vanyo and Jim Nyhoff met with Minnesota Representative Paul Marquart about the project.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources continues to work on Environmental Impact Statement. The study will look at the current alignment, as well as the alignment alternative 1.5 miles north of the current alignment.

Manager Olson received a call from Representative Wes Belter about funding for the project. Chairman Brodshaug will work with the Project Management Consultant to set up a meeting with local legislators to discuss the project.

Ty Smith updated the Board on the construction status of the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project. The project is going well and is on track.

Maple River Dam

Kurt Lysne reported on various items relating to the Maple River Dam. Brady Woodard is working with people interested in haying Maple River Dam property. They will be putting together a more formal plan for haying next year. Fence repairs are also being completed. They are looking into concrete repair work needed on the secondary spillway. The repairs needed do not pose a safety issue. Mowing is being completed. Mr. Lysne will check into whether mowing can be done more than once a year. Work is also being done on obtaining access for the removal of dead trees in the future.

Reimbursement request #29 from the City of Fargo from funds administered by the State Water Commission, pursuant to SB 2020

It was moved by Manager Jacobson and seconded by Manager Wolfer to approve Reimbursement request #29 from the City of Fargo from funds administered by the State Water Commission, pursuant to SB 2020. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Bills

It was moved by Manager Buringrud and seconded by Manager Olson to approve payment of Checks #11312 through #11317 and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote the following Managers voted in favor: Brodshaug, Jacobson, Olson, Buringrud and Wolfer. Motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business for the Board to consider, it was moved by Manager Jacobson, seconded by Manager Buringrud and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Mark Brodshaug
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer